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520.37550X00/7276

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Masaru TAKAHASHI *et al.*  
Serial No. : 09/392,564RCE  
Filed : 9 September 1999  
For : REPRODUCTION APPARATUS  
AND DECODING APPARATUS  
Art Unit : 2135  
Examiner : Thanhnga B. Truong  
Conf. No. : 1400

**AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE****Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents

POB 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

27 May 2004

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action having a USPTO mailing date of 13 May 2004, and the Examiner Interview conducted 27 May 2004, the following is respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

In accordance with the revised format of the manner of making amendments under 37 CFR §1.121 as set forth in the Final Rule effective 30 July 2003, each section of amendment herein begins on a new page, and changes are shown by strike-through (or double brackets where appropriate) and underlining to indicate deletions and additions, respectively. A complete listing of all claims ever presented in the application is given with the current status of each claim, and only the text of all pending and withdrawn claims is presented in full, with those not being amended herein being presented in clean version.